

Application No. 09/647,670
Amendment dated August 21, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated May 21, 2003

REMARKS

It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt and consideration of the prior art submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 11, 2003, a copy of which is enclosed.

The rejections of the claims as anticipated by Dubois et al '867 and obvious over Dubois et al '867 combined with Rinkewich '672 are respectfully traversed. It is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these rejections and pass the application to issue for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to incorporate a limitation contained within now canceled Claim 32 calling for the angle of the first wall portion of the ridge relative to the side wall to be a function of the angle of repose of the bulk material such that the first wall portion is aligned with the flow of the bulk material during unloading of the container. It is submitted that this limitation is nowhere to be found in the disclosure of Dubois '867 and for this reason Dubois '867 does not anticipate the claim. All that Dubois '867 says about the grooves 16 is that they are V-shaped and disposed at an angle of 45° with respect to the side wall 22. There is no correlation with the angle of repose of the material contained within the container. It is therefore submitted that Claims 1 and 2 and the claims dependent thereon are not anticipated by Dubois '867 or obvious over Dubois '867 combined with Rinkewich.

Furthermore, Dubois '867 certainly does not provide a disclosure of the specific formulas for determining the angle of the first wall as defined by Claims 10-13.

The prior art is wholly inadequate to provide a basis for rejecting the claims as anticipated or obvious and it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections and pass

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the application to issue. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 260-460-1692 if such would be of assistance in expediting prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enc. Information Disclosure
Statement (copy)
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CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on: August 21, 2003

JOHN F. HOFFMAN, REG. NO. 26,280

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

August 21, 2003

Date